

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR:LM
APPROVED BY EUR: J. A. ARMITAGE
EUR/EE:NGANDREWS
EUR/NE:DDONCHI

-----070159Z 089851 /64

R 062201Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OSLO
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130121

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NO, YO, US

SUBJECT: MINISTER-COUNSELOR CALL ON ARMITAGE

1. NORWEGIAN MINISTER-COUNSELOR VAERNO CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE JUNE 1 TO ASK QUESTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CIRCA JUNE 13 VISIT TO BELGRADE OF THE NORWEGIAN PREMIER. VAERNO ASKED FIRST ABOUT POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NATO ALLIANCE IN THE PRESIDENT'S REFERENCES IN HIS NOTRE DAME SPEECH TO NOT JUDGING COUNTRIES BY THEIR ANTI-COMMUNISM. ARMITAGE ADVISED THAT THIS SHOULD BE READ NOT IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT BUT IN TERMS OF NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS.

2. ARMITAGE GAVE OUR VIEWS ON THE PODGORNY REMOVAL AND EXPRESSED CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS
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ON SALT NOW THAT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS IS JOINED. HE SAID WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE SOVIETS WILL HARDEN THEIR SALT POSITIONS DUE TO OUR EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. TO VAERNO'S OBSERVATION THAT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE WHITE HOUSE ACTIVITY ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOVIET UNION RECENTLY, ARMITAGE OBSERVED THAT THE INITIAL STATEMENTS HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO MAKE OUR POSITIONS CLEAR AND FURTHER

ACTION WILL DEPEND ON WHAT HAPPENS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD

3. VAERNO ASKED ABOUT U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS AND THE VICE PRESIDENT'S RECENT VISIT. ARMITAGE REPLIED THAT THE VISIT HAD GONE WELL, THAT WE HAD REAFFIRMED OUR SUPPORT OF YUGOSLAVIA IN A WAY THAT WILL HELP OUR RELATIONS, BUT THAT WE HAD NOT HESITATED TO EXPRESS OUR VIEW THAT THE YUGOSLAVS SHOULD BE MORE MINDFUL OF OUR INTERESTS WITHIN THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT. ARMITAGE NOTED THAT TITO HAD SEEMED IN FINE FETTER. TOPICS THAT HAD ARISEN IN THE MONDALE-TITO TALKS INCLUDED THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA, AND CSCE, BUT THERE HAD BEEN NO REAL DISCUSSION OF THE SOVIET UNION. BESIDES THESE ISSUES, ARMITAGE SAID THE YUGOSLAVS MIGHT WANT TO RAISE WITH THE NORWEGIAN PREMIER THE QUESTION OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. VANCE

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